

Message Text

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SUBJECT: PREVIEW OF LEFTIST CAMPAIGN PLATFORM

SUMMARY. MARXIST SPOKESMAN KHALID MUHYI AL-DIN HAS SHIFTED HIS ASU ORGANIZATION'S THEMES FROM FOREIGN POLICY TO CONCENTRATION ON DOMESTIC FREEDOMS FOR TRADE UNIONS AND ECONOMIC PLIGHT OF WORKERS. NASSERIST STRUGGLE TO JOIN LEFTIST ORGANIZATION CONTINUES. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING MAY 12 ASU CENTRAL COMMITTEE CELEBRATION OF FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF MAY 15 CORRECTIVE REVOLUTION, KHALID MUHYI AL-DIN (MARXIST), RAPPOREUR OF ASU LEFTIST GROUP, THE NATIONAL PROGRESSIVE ORGANIZATION (NPO), MADE FOLLOWING COMMENTS.

A. WE CANNOT SPEAK ABOUT DEMOCRACY WITHOUT STRIKING BALANCE BETWEEN POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ASPECTS. REAL DEVELOPMENT MEANS A MAN DOES NOT SACRIFICE FREEDOM OF THOUGHT TO EARN A LIVING, NOR DOES IT DECEIVE MAN BY ILLUSIONS OF FREEDOM WHILE HE IS CRUSHED BY POVERTY AND ILLITERACY.

B. WE CALL FOR CANCELLATION OF REMAINING LAWS AND MEASURES WHICH IMPINGE ON FREEDOM OF CITIZENS.

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C. WE AFFIRM FREEDOM TO FORM TRADE UNIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS

AND THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE LABOR MOVEMENT FROM POLITICAL AND EXECUTIVE AUTHORITIES.

D. TRADE UNION FREEDOMS MUST BE GUARANTEED INCLUDING RIGHTS TO STRIKE, HOLD MEETINGS, STAGE PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATIONS, AND PUBLISH NEWSPAPERS.

E. OUR PEOPLE SHALL NOT ENJOY FREEDOM AS LONG AS PARTS OF OUR TERRITORY ARE OCCUPIED BY ZIONIST FORCES. DEFENSE OF THE RIGHTS OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE IS AN INDIVISIBLE PART OF THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CONSCIENCE OF OUR PEOPLE.

F. WE SUPPORT PRESIDENT SADAT'S STATEMENT IN WHICH HE STRESSED FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION FOR EVERY POLITICAL ORGANIZATION AND NECESSITY TO GUARANTEE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION TO THE THREE ORGANIZATIONS.

2. GUMHURIYYA MAY 13 REPORTED THAT SOME MEMBERS OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE BEGAN TO WALK OUT DURING MUHYI AL-DIN'S PRESENTATION. ASU SEC GEN MAHGUB INTERVENED, SAYING MUHYI AL-DIN MUST BE GIVEN FULL FREEDOM TO VOICE HIS OPINIONS, A DECISION THAT ALL APPROVED.

3. GUMHURIYYA ALSO REPORTED MAY 13 THAT MUHYI AL-DIN CLAIMED NUMBER OF ARAB ORGANIZATIONS HAVE REQUESTED HOLDING OF TALKS WITH NPO INCLUDING PLO, SOCIALIST UNION IN MOSCOW, AND THE ALGERIAN FLN.

4. WEEKLY AKHIR SA'A REPORTS NSO NOW DOMINATED BY MARXISTS, BUT THAT CONFLICT BETWEEN MARXISTS AND NASSERISTS NOT RESOLVED. NASSERISTS, REPORTEDLY CONVINCED THAT MARXISTS DESIRE THEM TO JOIN NOS, HAVE BEGUN ATTACHING CONDITIONS. PRINCIPAL CONDITION IS THAT NASSERISTS BE GIVEN 60 PERCENT OF ORGANIZATIONAL SEATS AT ALL LEVELS ON THE GROUNDS THAT THEY REPRESENT THE REAL LEFT IN EGYPT. MARXISTS HAVE TRIED TO REDUCE THIS FIGURE IN ANGRY DEBATES, BUT NO AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REACHED.

5. COMMENT: WHEN KHALID ANNOUNCED HIS PLATFORM (CAIRO 4406), EMPHASIS WAS ON NECESSITY FOR SOCIALIST SOCIETY, COLLECTIVE OWNERSHIP OF CHIEF TOOLS OF PRODUCTION, AND PROMOTION OF TRADE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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UNION AND COOPERATIVE MOVEMENTS. HIS MAY 12 SPEECH GAVE MUCH HEAVIER EMPHASIS TO IMPLIED PLIGHT OF WORKING MAN AND REPRESENTS DIRECT APPEAL FOR VOTES OF LABORING CLASS. HE IS TOUCHING SENSITIVE CHORD WHEN HE CALLS FOR SEVERANCE OF GOE CONTROL OF TRADE UNIONS. KHALID'S REMARKS, WHICH VIRTUALLY AVOID FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES (EXCEPT FOR SOP TO PALESTINIANS) ALSO REFLECT A CHANGE IN HIS CAMPAIGN TACTICS. HE HAD INITIALLY GOTTEN HIMSELF INTO EMBARRASSING TANGLE ON ISSUE

OF WHETHER HIS GROUP SHOULD RESPOND TO EGYPTIAN NATIONAL INTEREST RATHER THAN TO ITS MARXIST IDEOLOGY (CAIRO 4856), AND WOULD APPEAR NOW TO BE SKIRTING FOREIGN POLICY. THIS DECISION FITS IN WELL WITH MOOD OF EGYPTIAN POPULACE. ELECTION RALLIES SO FAR HAVE ELICITED QUESTIONS ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY ON THE STATE OF THE ECONOMY, A PREOCCUPATION ON WHICH KHALID AND HIS OPPONENTS WILL NO DOUBT CONTINUE CONCENTRATE IN THEIR CAMPAIGNS. LEFTISTS ARE ALSO MAKING PITCH FOR RELIGIOUS VOTE. KHALID, A MUSLIM SUFI, HAS WRITTEN NEWSPAPER ARTICLES ON ISLAM; LEFTIST PERIODICALS STRESS THAT RELIGION CAN LEAD WAY TO PROGRESS AND PROSPERITY.

6. REPORT IN AKHIR SA'A ON MARXIST-NASSERIST DISPUTE IS ACCURATE. NOW THAT NASSERISTS KNOW THEY CANNOT HAVE THEIR OWN FORUM, THEY HAVE BEEN MEETING WITH LEADING MARXISTS TO ATTEMPT WORK OUT MODUS VIVENDI. AT PRESENT, HOWEVER, WE UNDERSTAND MARXISTS ARE NOT MUCH INTERESTED AND THAT EVEN MANY NASSERISTS FEAR FORMAL IDENTIFICATION WITH KNOWN COMMUNISTS. EILTS

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